

REMARKS

All of the claims have been cancelled and new claims 27-32 are presented which clearly distinguish the invention from the prior art references. Reconsideration and allowance of the application as amended are respectively requested.

The present invention concerns a novel gaming device and method in which a gaming terminal is configured for playing at least a first game. A reader is provided for receiving data from a data storage device carried by the game player. A button is provided for pressing by a game player as part of the game. A biometric device is provided for measuring biometric data of the game player by sensing the biometric data directly through the button as it is pressed by the game player. The gaming terminal carries a comparator. The comparator compares the parameters of the game player's biometric data with parameters obtained from data received from the data storage device that is carried by the game player, for player identification.

Bradford et al. does not teach applicant's invention as now claimed. For example, Bradford et al. does not disclose the storage of biometric data in a smart card or in a device carried by the player. In Bradford et al., the player's biometric information is stored in a separate database either inside the gaming machine or attached to the gaming machine. The combination of comparing the parameters of the game player's biometric data with parameters obtained from data received from a data storage device carried by the game player, with the biometric device of the gaming terminal operating by sensing the biometric data directly through a button that is pressed by the game player as part of the game, is novel and is now clearly specified in applicant's claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'G. Gerstman', is written over a horizontal line.

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